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AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 MAY 2006

**BOX PCT
IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY--CHAPTER II**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A
PRIOR TO ACTION**

APPLICANT(S): Osamu AOKI
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: P06,0070
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/JP2004/009860
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: July 9, 2004
INVENTION: Invalidity Monitoring Program, Invalidity Monitoring
Method and Invalidity Monitoring System

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants herewith amend the above-referenced PCT application, and request entry of the Amendment prior to examination on the United States Examination Phase.

Amendments to the Drawings are reflected in the Replacement Pages attached as an Appendix to this amendment and the appertaining comments on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.